

copy of
Letter from Eleanor Blair at Wellesley College, to her family at Montour
Falls, New York.

Wellesley, Mass.,
15 April, 1916

Dearest family,

[account of all-College elections] . . .

Speaking of election announcements Thursday afternoon, I had the best time ever that P. M. Perhaps you have heard me speak of Josephine Preston Peabody who wrote The Piper, 1915's Senior play, and many other dramas and poems. You know I had her Book of the Little Past down on the list of books I wanted.

Well, she was here Thursday afternoon to read some of her poems. Billings Hall was jam full, and everyone was charmed especially with her child poems -- they are fully as good, I think, as Stevenson's. As she is a T. Z. E. member, we had a tea for her down at the house, and had a chance to meet her & talk to her. She told us delightful stories about her children, especially little Alice, aged seven, who writes poetry -- and writes some really wonderful things for a child of that age. One night when Mr. Masfield was at dinner with Mrs. Marks -- J. P. Peabody -- little Alice came in and seeing Mr. Masfield said, "Oh Mamma, isn't it nice to have four poets in the house."

On being asked how she got four poets, she answered, "Oh, I and brother, and Mamma and Mr. Masfield."

I couldn't resist the temptation to go over to the book store & get The Book of the Little Past and have Mrs. Marks autograph it, which she did also writing in a quotation for me. Isn't that nice? She is going to bring her children out some day -- I'd give anything to have a chance to play with some youngsters.

Lunch bell has rung, so love to all,

Eleanor

Bequest of Eleanor Blair.

Removed from:

Peabody, J. P.

The Book of the Little Past
Boston, 1912.

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